SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, the sick vehicles would be immediately identified and removed by patrol vehicles. Cranes, for that purpose, have been provided to the State Government. As for the first part of the question, the matter pertains to the State Government. It is an enforcement issue.

प्रो॰ राम देव भंडारी: माननीय सभापति जी, इसमें 5 वर्षों के आंकड़े दिए गए हैं जिनकी मृत्यु सड़क दुर्घटनाओं में हुई है। सबसे अन्त में 2003 में 85298 मृतकों के बारे में कहा गया है। महोदय, यह तो सरकारी आंकड़े हैं जिनकी जानकारी सरकार को नहीं है। इसके अलावा भी एक बहुत बड़ी संख्या ऐसे मृतकों की है जिनकी जानकारी सरकार को नहीं है। महोदय, बहुत-सी जानें बचाई जा सकती है। अगर समय पर उनका उपचार हो जाए, उन्हें हॉस्पिटल पहुंचा दिया जाए। महोदय, सरकार ने कहा है कि दुर्घटना पीड़ित व्यक्तियों को निकटतम चिकित्सा केन्द्र तक पहुंचाने की जिम्मेदारी सम्बन्धित राज्य सरकारों व राज्य क्षेत्र प्रशासन की है। मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या एक ऐसे चलन्त (मोबाइल) सैंटर या डिस्पैंसरी नहीं बनाई जा सकती है जहां, जैसे ही जानकारी मिले कि कोई दुर्घटना हुई है, फर्स्ट एड देकर के उनको हॉस्पिटल पहुंचाए जाए। अगर इस तरह के चलन्त (मोबाइल) सैंटर बनाए जाएं, डिस्पैंसरी बनाई जाएं तो तत्काल सेवा दे सकें, तो मैं समझता हूं कि बहुत सी जानें बचाई जा सकती हैं।

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, this is a suggestion to be considered.

श्री सभापति: यह जो सारे सप्लीमैंट्रीज के नाम मेरे पास आए हैं मैं आपके पास भेज रहा हूं। आप इन सब को चाय पर बुला लीजिए और इन सबका समाधान कर दीजिए।

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, I would request you to allow me to make a point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next Question. Question No. 422.

Prime Minister's Russia visit

*422. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a ministerial level delegation led by Prime Minister visited Moscow, recently;

(b) if so, the composition of the team thereof;

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon;

(d) whether Government have signed any MoU during the visit; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (e) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The official delegation included the National Security Adviser, Principal Secretary to PM, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, Foreign Secretary, Secretary, Department of Space and other officials.

(c) Expenditure incurred on the visit would be intimated once all the final bills are received.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The three agreements signed after summit level meetings with President Putin were: (i) Agreement on Recriprocal Protection of Intellectual Property Rights in the field of Military-Technical Cooperation; (ii) Agreement on Technology Safeguard while implementing long-term cooperation in the area of joint development, operation and use of the GLONASS System for peaceful purposes; and (iii) Agreement between the Indian Space Research Organization and the Federal Space Agency of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the field of solar physics and solar-terrestrial relationship within the framework of the Coronas-Photon Project.

SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Sir, I would like to congratulate the hon. Prime Minister on the successful visit to Moscow. We have entered into three agreements with Moscow. I would like to know the outcome of these agreements and the benefits that are likely to accrue to our nation. I would also like to know whether India and Russia have identified cooperation on the issue of medium-range transport aircraft and Fifth Generation Aircraft.

SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH: Sir, there are three agreements that we have signed when the hon. Prime Minister went and visited Moscow during the earlier part of this month. Two of them are on Space; one is on military capabilities and Intellectual Property Rights pertaining to military technology. All these things are in the interest of India and all these three agreements would benefit India. The GLOVNASS, the Global Positioning System of Russia, in which we are incidentally collaborating with the Russians, will help us. On the agreement on Intellectual Property Rights that India and Russia have together signed, if we are able to give our inputs, if we have to send our joint, collaborated equipment to more countries, we will benefit. Thus, we will benefit from all the three agreements.

About the Russian offer, we have accepted that offer, in the sense that it is under consideration. The Russians have always collaborated with us in defence equipment supplies. So, we are in the process of looking into

this. A decision has not yet been taken but the decision will be taken keeping in view our national interest.

SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Sir, my second supplementary is: What is the status of our country with the US and other developed countries in this field? What are the future plans in this regard with developed countries?

SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH: Sir, our friendship with Russia is time tested, historical and vibrant. Our relationship with Russia cannot be compared with America or other countries in the West. We have good relationship with them as well. Relationship with one country is not going to affect the relationship with other countries, and we are in the process of developing good relationship with all countries in the world.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, when the Prime Minister was travelling to Moscow, on board the aircraft when he was talking to the Press persons, he said that the supply of low enriched uranium for Tarapur would not link to the US nuclear deal of July 18. What I would like to know, therefore, from the Prime Minister is, whether this issue of supply of fuel to Tarapur came up during his discussions in Moscow and whether the Russian response was positive.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr, Chairman, Sir, we had a comprehensive discussion between our two countries with regard to the energy situation and, therefore, al sources of energy which are pertinent to India's energy security were discussed with the Russian side.

DR. KARAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this has obviously been a very successful visit which has further strengthened our relationship with Russia. I have one question to ask. These Agreements are good but there does not seem to have been any mention of any cultural agreement because cultural diplomacy is important. The exchange of academicians, artists, or intellectuals is important. Our relations with Russia have to take on that important cultural dimension also. Would the Minister be able to tell us whether in addition to these more technical agreements there is a broader cultural agreement with Russia and whether that is being carried forward?

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member has asked a very important question. In recognition of the importance of cooperation between the civil societies of our two countries, I took the initiative to invite a large number of scholars who have been working on India- related issues. I had a very good discussion with them. Several proposals were put forward in that meeting and they will be processed in due course of time.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Mr. Chairman, Sir from the Press reports one gets an impression that energy security was one of the core areas that were discussed with the Russian Government. Now, will the hon. Prime Minister let us know whether we have we prepared our own energy policy and in terms of that viable energy mix for the country so that these engagements can be more meaningfully taken forward?

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the preparation of a comprehensive blue print of a long run energy policy is under discussion. There is a co-ordination Committee on Energy, which has recently been constituted, charged with the responsibility to look at various options which are relevant when it comes to long-term energy situation.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Sir, Russia has already supplied 2,000 megawatt nuclear power plant at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu. Did the Prime Minister press the Russian Government, during his visit to Russia, for two more nuclear power plants in Kundankulam expansion project? If so, what was the reaction of the Russian Government?

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir the Kudankulam project is being implemented right now with Russian assistance. There is a proposal to expand its capacity and this matter did figure in my discussions with the Russian President.

DR. K. KASTURIRANGAN: I am happy to see the two good agreements on the space that were signed during the visit of the Prime Minister. What I would like to clarify from the hon. Prime Minister through you is whether there has been a time frame that has been set to complete the co-operative Agreement on the Glonass-K system on which India and Russia are going to co-operate. Secondly, has the Russian side agreed to release the necessary spectrum at their control as it is critical to the implementation of the Glonass-K co-operation?

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, these are details about the Agreements. I will supply those details to the hon. Member.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, the Prime Minister's visit to Russia was indeed timely and has certainly helped to deepen the engagement between the two countries. The question I would like to ask is: at this critical time when we are seeking to enlist support of the Members of the Nuclear Supplier's Group for our nuclear civil energy co-operation, has India been able to secure and enlist the support of Russia in this matter?

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, today, the situation is such that the July 18 statement which was issued after my visit to the United

States, has the broad support of the United States, the United Kingdom, France and Russia.

Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway

*423. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:†
SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that extension of Ahmedabad-Vadodara express-way upto Mumbai is being proposed under National Highway Development Programme;

(b) whether Government are aware that Gujarat has frozen development in a band of 300 mts. on either side of finalized alignment; and

(c) if so, the time-frame for acquisition of land and the starting of the project?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) and (b) Under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase—VI, which is yet to be approved by the Government, construction of 1000 km. of Expressways is envisaged. It is premature to indicate the name of Expressways under NHDP Phase-VI including extension of Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway upto Mumbai and its alignment. However, Central Government is aware that Government of Gujarat has instructed local bodies (Vadodara Urban Development Authority & various Gram Panchayats) to reserve 300 m. land on either side of some alignment proposed earlier.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI RAJU PARMAR: I would like to know from the hon. Minister, because in his reply, he has said that the Government is yet to approve the Phase-3 scheme, when he is going to approve this National Highways Development Project Phase-3 and I want to know whether he will assure the House to include this Ahmedabad-Vadodara strech up to Mumbai Highway to include this in Phase-6.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Raju Parmar.